



Massachusetts National Guard

Public Affairs

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Media Advisory

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July 12, 2006

Whitinsville Guard Unit to Deploy Overseas

WHITINSVILLE, Mass. -- The Massachusetts National Guard will be holding a farewell ceremony for approximately 125 members of Whitinsville's Headquarters Company 101st Engineer Battalion at Wakefield High School 11 a.m. Sunday, July 16, 2006.

The company received mobilization orders and will deploy to Kosovo in support of NATO peacekeeping operations. The unit will spend approximately 18 months on active duty and perform missions similar to a military police company, including base defense, quick reaction force, community policing, convoy escort and detainee operations.

"Public attention may be focused on Iraq, but missions like this are also critical, and the separation is just as hard on families," said Brig. Gen. Oliver J. Mason Jr., The Adjutant General of the Massachusetts National Guard. "I'm proud of these soldiers. I know they will accomplish the mission."

Please join families and friends of these citizen-soldiers and the Massachusetts National Guard in bidding Headquarters Company 101st Engineers farewell as they continue the Massachusetts National Guard's proud tradition of service to the American people.

MEDIA MUST REGISTER FOR THE EVENT BY CALLING THE ABOVE NUMBER

WHAT: Farewell, Headquarters Company 101st Engineer Battalion from Whitinsville

WHERE: Wakefield High School, 60 Farm Street, Wakefield, MA 01880

WHEN: Sunday, July 16, 2006, 11 a.m.

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Public Affairs Office

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